# Update on the Institute of Medicine Committee on the Assessment of Studies of Health Outcomes Related to the Recommended Childhood Immunization Schedule

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## **Statement of Task**

The Institute of Medicine will convene an expert committee to:

- Review scientific findings and stakeholder concerns related to the safety of the recommended childhood immunization schedule.
- 2. Identify potential research approaches, methodologies, and study designs that could inform this question, including an assessment of the potential strengths and limitations of each approach, methodology and design, as well as the financial and ethical feasibility of doing them.
- 3. Issue a report summarizing their findings.

# **Committee Members**

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### Tomás Aragón, M.D., Dr.P.H.

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# Committee Update:

- To date, the committee has held three information gathering meetings: February 9-10, in Washington, DC; March 8-9, in Seattle, WA; and May 29-30, in Washington, DC.
- The meetings were open to the public. At each session, a listenonly phone line was made available and an hour open comment period was held. The committee continues to review emails it receives.
- Presentations, committee biosketches, and related information from these sessions are currently posted on the committee's website.
- The committee plans to hold two additional closed deliberative sessions over the summer.

# Committee Update (continued):

- A commissioned paper was developed by a consultant for the committee. "Study Designs for the Safety Evaluation of Different Childhood Immunization Schedules" was released on the IOM website on May 14, 2012. The committee requested feedback on the paper from interested stakeholders.
- The comment period regarding the commissioned paper ended Thursday, May 31. To date, over 200 comments have been received.
- Plans are underway for the consultant to revise the paper and the new version will be posted in mid-June. The IOM will again ask for comments from stakeholders.
- The committee intends to release their consensus study report in late fall/early winter.

# Comments/Suggestions?

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